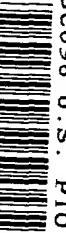


OSTROLENK, FABER, GERB & SOFFEN, LLP

Attorneys at Law

**1180 Avenue of the Americas
New York, New York 10036-8403**

**Tel (212) 382-0700 Fax (212) 382-0888
email@ostrolenk.com**

01/07/02

JC698 U.S. PTO

JC698 U.S. PTO
10/036408
01/07/02


Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

OFGS File No. : P/16-300 DIV

Inventor : Katsuyuki SAITO, et al.

Title : ENDOSCOPIC IMAGING SYSTEM MAKING IT
POSSIBLE TO DETACHABLY ATTACH EXPANSION
UNIT HAVING EXTERNAL EXPANSION FACILITY AND
ADD EXPANSION FACILITY FOR IMPROVING
CAPABILITY OF SYSTEM

Assignee : Olympus Optical Co., Ltd.

The present application is a divisional under 37 C.F.R. §1.53(b) of prior application Serial No. 09/120,559, filed July 22, 1998, by Katsuyuki Saito, et al. entitled ‘ENDOSCOPIC IMAGING SYSTEM MAKING IT POSSIBLE TO DETACHABLY ATTACH EXPANSION UNIT HAVING EXTERNAL EXPANSION FACILITY AND ADD EXPANSION FACILITY FOR IMPROVING CAPABILITY OF SYSTEM’.

Enclosed herewith please find the following documents in the above-identified application for United States Letters Patent:

Print EFS Data Sheet

75 Pages of Specification including Abstract and Claims

4 Numbered Claims Calculated as 4 Claims for Fee Purposes

29 Sheets of Drawing Containing Figures 1 to 46. (Formal)

Copy of Declaration and Power of Attorney from the prior application under
37 CFR 1.63(d). The entire disclosure of the prior application is considered a part of the
disclosure of the accompanying continuation or divisional application and is hereby
incorporated herein by reference.

Preliminary Amendment

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §119 based on Japanese Application Nos. H9-197114, filed July
23, 1997; H9-201565 filed July 28, 1997; H9-206679, filed July 31, 1997 and H-9-208123,

filed August 1, 1997, is claimed. The certified copy of the priority application has been filed in said prior application Serial No. 09/120,559, filed July 22, 1998.

Small Entity Status is claimed

The prior application was assigned to Olympus Optical Co., Ltd. and was recorded on July 22, 1998 at Reel 9351, Frame 0738.

Return-Addressed Post Card

OFGS Check No. 8442, which includes the fee of \$710.00, calculated as follows:

Basic Filing Fee: \$ 710.00

Additional Filing Fees:

Total Number of Claims in Excess of 20, times \$18: \$ 0.00

Number of Independent Claims in Excess of 3, times \$80: \$ 0.00

One or More Multiple Dependent Claims: Total \$270.

Total Filing Fees or

Total Filing Fee Reduced 50% for Small Entity: \$ 710.00

In the event the actual fee is greater than the payment submitted or is inadvertently not enclosed, or if any additional fee during the prosecution of this case is not paid, the Patent and Trademark Office is authorized to charge the underpayment to Deposit Account No. 15-0700.

Respectfully submitted,



Ellen S. Tao
 Registration No.: 43,383
 OSTROLENK, FABER, GERB & SOFFEN, LLP
 1180 Avenue of the Americas
 New York, New York 10036-8403
 Telephone: (212) 382-0700

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent application of:

Katsuyuki SAITO, et al.

Date: January 7, 2002

Serial No.:

Group Art Unit: Unassigned

Filed:

Examiner: Unassigned

For: **ENDOSCOPIC IMAGING SYSTEM MAKING IT POSSIBLE TO DETACHABLY
ATTACH EXPANSION UNIT HAVING EXTERNAL EXPANSION FACILITY AND
ADD EXPANSION FACILITY FOR IMPROVING CAPABILITY OF SYSTEM**

Asst. Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Attention: Official Draftsman

SUBMISSION OF CORRECTED FORMAL DRAWINGS

Sir:

Enclosed herewith please find seven sheets of corrected formal drawings containing Figures 19, 21-23, 32, 37, 39, 41 and 43 for the above-identified application.

Approval of the corrected formal drawings is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


Ellen S. Tao
Registration No.: 43,383
OSTROLENK, FABER, GERB & SOFFEN, LLP
1725 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006
Telephone: (202) 457-7785